

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PORT A 02870 091905Z
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 SSO-00 /011 W
-----055544 091907Z /47

O 091830Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5770

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT AU PRINCE 2870

LIMDIS --FOR ARA ONLY

E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SHUM, HA
SUBJECT: POLITICAL PRISONERS IN HAITI

1. ARTICLE BY LONDON OBSERVER CORRESPONDENT MARK FRANKLAND ENTITLED "HAITI, SUICIDE IN THE SUN" REPRINTED IN WASHINGTON POST OUTLOOK SECTION CONTAINS FOLLOWING PASSAGE "THE PRESIDENT (JEAN-CLAUDE DUVALIER) PARDONED 90 POLITICAL PRISONERS LAST YEAR, BUT U. S. GOVERNMENT HAS A LIST OF 100 STILL IN JAIL AND THERE MAY REALLY BE TWICE AS MANY. TWO HUNDRED IS A LOT OF PEOPLE IN A COUNTRY WHERE SO FEW ARE ACTIVELY INTERESTED IN POLITICS".

2. EMBASSY SOURCE DID TELL FRANKLAND DURING HIS VISIT TO HAITI THAT WE HAD COMPILED A LIST OF "CLOSE TO" ONE HUNDRED NAMES OF PERSONS WE BELIEVED TO BE IMPRISONED FOR POLITICAL REASONS. FRANKLAND WAS TOLD THIS LIST WAS FAR FROM EXCLUSIVE OR COMPLETE AND WAS COMPILED FROM SOURCES AVAILABLE TO US AND THAT A REASONABLE GUESS AS TO THE NUMBER OF SURVIVING POLITICAL PRISONERS THROUGHOUT HAITI MIGHT BE ABOUT DOUBLE THIS ROUGH FIGURE.

3. ANNOTATED COPY OF LIST DISPATCHED TODAY'S POUCH TO HAITIAN DESK OFFICER UNDER COVER OF ANALYTICAL LETTER. LIST ACTUALLY CONTAINS 84 NAMES, OF WHICH WE NOW SUSPECT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PORT A 02870 091905Z

AT LEAST SIX MAY BE DEAD BUT WE HAVE NO FIRM OR RECENT INFORMATION TO CONFIRM OUR SUSPICIONS. SOME NAMES ON THE LIST ARE INDIVIDUALS WHO ESPOUSE VIOLENT OVERTHROW OF THE GOVERNMENT WHO WERE IN POSSESSION OF WEAPONS AND ACTIVELY PLOTTING WHEN ARRESTED: OTHERS ARE BELIEVED BY THE GOVERNMENT TO BE ALLIES OR FOLLOWERS OF THE FIRST GROUP: STILL OTHERS ARE PERSONS WHO HAVE HAD CONTACT WITH

OVERSEAS COMMUNISTS OR PREACHED LEFT-WING IDEALISM IN
HAITI WHICH THREATENED IMPORTANT ELEMENTS OF POWER
STRUCTURE. VERY FEW, HOWEVER, HAVE EVER BEEN
ACKNOWLEDGED AS POLITICAL PRISONERS OR PUBLICLY TRIED.
SOME HAVE BEEN INCACERARTED FOR AS LONG AS EIGHT YEARS.
MEADE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL PRISONERS, PRESS RELEASES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977PORTA02870
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: DG ALTERED
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770286-0689
Format: TEL
From: PORT AU PRINCE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770881/aaaacqvs.tel
Line Count: 68
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0b7b635f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY, LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY, LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1662879
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POLITICAL PRISONERS IN HAITI
TAGS: SHUM, HA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0b7b635f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009